

ARTH 473/573 WGST 436 WOMEN IN ART
M W 9:30 - 11:15 am
Winter 2017 Dr. Ellen C. Schwartz

OVERVIEW: In this course, we will study the work of women artists from early times to the modern era. Other topics considered will include images of women, women's patronage of the arts, and conditions affecting women's artistic production and creativity.

READING: Required reading for this course:

Nancy Heller, Women Artists: an Illustrated History, 4th ed. (New York: Abbeville Press, 2003).

Coursepack of four articles

The coursepack, which you will need first, is available at Follett's Bookstore in the Student Union. The textbook will be available at all bookstores, or you may order it online. You will need the coursepack right away, and the textbook for the third week of class.

REQUIREMENTS: There will be two examinations in the class, a midterm on March 6, and a final on April 24. Examinations will include image work and essay questions. A term paper will also be assigned, due at the beginning of class on April 12. We will discuss the term paper project in class, and a handout will be available for guidance. In addition, we will be holding a number of directed discussions during class; come prepared to take part. Grades for this course will be determined by the following formula:

Midterm exam	25%
Final exam	25%
Paper	40%
Class participation	10%

Please note that there will be no makeup examinations in this class, and no extensions can be given on the paper. Please plan your time carefully. As in all college courses, timely completion of reading assignments and faithful class attendance are a must. Please note the final exam date, which is Provost-mandated and cannot be changed.

OFFICE HOURS: My office is Ford 218. Hours this term are:

Monday 8:30-9:15 am

Tuesday 3:30-5:00 pm

and by appointment

Please feel free to drop in with or without an appointment during these times. If the posted hours are impossible for you to make, we can set up an appointment for another mutually agreeable time. Phone numbers where I can be reached are 487-6546 (my office number) and 487-1268 (main office). I can always be reached quickly via e-mail, at <eschwartzATemich.edu> (replace the AT with @). I always answer emails within 24 hours.

I hope that all students will confer with me on the choice of a topic for the paper, and during the research/writing process. In addition, anyone who receives a grade lower than C on the first exam should come to see me during office hours to discuss the test, study habits, notetaking, etc. I am available for others kinds of consultation, as well.

An electronic copy of this syllabus, other class materials and useful links can be found on my website at <<http://people.emich.edu/eschwartz/>>

RESPONSIBILITIES: It is necessary to keep up with the assigned reading, to attend class regularly and to participate in class discussions. Students are responsible for all classroom information. If you are absent due to illness, please be sure to obtain notes from a fellow student, and look up the major artists and artworks discussed by consulting books in the library or images on through an image database such as ARTstor.

CLASSROOM POLICIES AND ETIQUETTE:

- Class will begin and end on time.
- Exams will begin on time, with the image portion first; images cannot be shown again to latecomers. No makeup examinations will be given and late papers will not be accepted.
- Since distractions interfere with everyone's learning, cellphones and laptops will not be used in this class. Electronics must be turned off (not just silenced), as they can interfere with the projection equipment. If you will need your phone during class time for a medical or family emergency, please inform me before class begins, set your phone on vibrate mode, and sit near the door.
- I want our class to be a time and place which is courteous and conducive to learning for everyone. I show respect for my students by coming to class prepared and on time, and I expect the same in return. Come in prepared to stay, as going and coming interrupts your concentration and disturbs your classmates as well. Thank you.

A NOTE ABOUT EMAIL AND MESSAGES: I do not use text messaging. I do, however, communicate regularly via email. Due to the threat of viruses, please note that I will not open emails that do not have the class number or title as the subject. I also ask that the content be in the message body; I will not open attachments that I am not expecting, to protect us all! If you use a client other than my.emich for email, or don't read your my.emich email regularly, please set up a forwarding system so that email sent through the my.emich system will reach you. It's the only way faculty have of reaching students readily. Thanks!

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

- Jan. 4 W Introduction
9 M Artistic "myths" about women (Heller, pp. 7-13)
11 W Ancient images of women – goddesses, Classical images of women
16 M No class, Martin Luther King Day
18 W Discussion/project: Images of women in advertising
23 M Discussion of "Erotic Imagery in 19th Century Art" (coursepack article #1)
25 W Women in medieval art--artists & patrons (reading: "A Theophany of the Feminine," coursepack article #2)
30 M Women artists of the Renaissance (Heller, pp. 14-27)
- Feb. 1 W Women artists in the 17th century (Heller, pp. 28-51)
6 M "
8 W Women artists and the culture of the 18th century (Heller, pp. 52-71)
13 M "
15 W 19th century women artists (Heller, pp. 72-111)
20 M No class, winter recess
22 W "
27 M 19th century women artists, continued
- Mar. 1 W Discussion of "Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?" (coursepack article #3).
6 M Midterm exam
8 W Research methods session
13 M Early 20th century women's art (Heller, pp. 112-161)
15 W "
20 M Early 20th century women photographers
22 W Mid-century women's art (Heller, pp. 162-209)
27 M "
29 W Later 20th-century women artists (Heller, pp. 210-255)
- Apr. 3 M Feminist art (Selections from Judy Chicago, *Through the Flower* (coursepack article #4)
5 W Movie "Womanhouse" and discussion on Feminist art
10 M Women's arts now (Heller, 256-283)
12 W "**TERM PAPERS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS**
17 M Final discussion: Is there such a thing as "women's art"?)
24 M Final exam, 9:00-10:20 am